

WH/RNM

8<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

## **INTRODUCING CASHLESS PAYMENT FOR FOOD AND CHANGED MENUS**

As you will be aware from my previous letters we are introducing cashless payment for food, starting on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, so I thought a short letter would be helpful to remind you of some necessary actions by parents and carers but also updating you on some further changes.

The system and policies that we are introducing are successfully operated across The GORSE Academies Trust and we are in no doubt that it will provide considerable convenience and benefit to parents/carers and students. The introduction of the changes is not without its complexities and we are appreciative of the support we are receiving from you all.

### **PARENTPAY**

From Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, cash will no longer be accepted by the academy, so it is important that all families have set up their ParentPay account and added some funds for lunches by this date. If you have mislaid your login details, please contact Reception who will put you through to one of Mr Hemstock, Miss Rushton or Mrs Anderson who will be able to help you.

### **BIOMETRIC PERMISSION**

The cost of meals will be debited from your ParentPay by use of the fingerprint. Families have been sent a letter to give permission for us to hold this data, with a deadline for a return by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May. If you have mislaid the permission slip I have attached one at the end of this letter. If you do not have a printer, students can collect a paper copy from Student Services. The biometric data will be collected in the week beginning 13<sup>th</sup> May.

### **FREE SCHOOL MEALS**

For students registered for free school meals, the daily entitlement of £2.40 will be automatically loaded onto their account each day. This can be spent in either break one or two. Families can supplement this with additional funds through ParentPay.

### **CHANGES TO MENUS**

Alongside the new payment system, Mrs Brown and our catering team have been working hard to implement further improvements to the service.

In line with the national School Food Plan and TGAT policy, we are working to encourage students to make balanced, healthy food choices across both breaks and to this end we will be introducing a [new menu](#) from 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

This will place more of an emphasis on value “Meal Deals”. We will also be creating new serving arrangements with “Grab and Go” lunchtime meal deals to reduce queuing times for popular hot and cold snack items and a new “Hot Meal of the Day” counter, with popular and substantial two-course meals all at a set price of £2.40, providing fantastic value and speeding up service times.

A range of individual hot snacks will also be available from alternative serving areas. I will put some illustrations of how this will work with new dining hall layouts on Friday’s blog.

At morning break, we will concentrate on providing a lighter range of hot snacks, toasted bread items, fruit pots and drinks from all our serving points. We will also provide sandwich meal deals in “Grab Bags” in the first break so that students undertaking lunchtime activities can be assured of time to eat a meal.

### **THE COST OF MEALS**

You will see from the new menus that we have re-priced some of our items. While many costs remain unchanged, the majority of the alterations represent price reductions.

### **BREAKFASTS**

From 3<sup>rd</sup> June, we will no longer offer food and drink items before registration. The uptake of this service by students has become very low and sadly, it is no longer cost effective to operate. The dining areas will still be open for students to meet before school and to consume breakfast items brought from home.

### **SIXTH FORM DINER**

Opening times for the Sixth Form Diner will remain unchanged, although in the next few weeks a major refurbishment of this space will begin as a part of the opening of Elliott Hudson College Boston Spa in September. We are very excited about this development and an alternative location will be arranged for Sixth Formers to dine during the alterations.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CW", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

CHRISTOPHER WALSH  
Principal

## **BIOMETRIC CONSENT**

***Please tick as appropriate:***

In order for my child to effectively use the cashless catering, **I agree** for the usage/storage of my child's biometric data by The GORSE Academies Trust.

I wish for my child to use alternative authentication methods for cashless catering and **I do not agree** for the usage/storage of my child's biometric data by The GORSE Academies Trust.

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student form: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/carer name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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